

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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P A T E N T

APPLICANT: Hans-Diedrich Kreft (GROUP ART UNIT: 2131
)
SERIAL NO.: 09/509,204 (I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper
FILED: July 6, 2000 referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being
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EXAMINER: (Assistant Commissioner For Patents
CASE NO.: 09793877-0002 Washington, D.C. 20231
(
Date of Deposit: October 17, 2001
(
Tina M. Kiselka 10-17-01
(Tina M. Kiselka Date
(

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

MAR. 1 5 2002

Dear Sir:

Technology Center 2100

The following information is submitted, pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.97-1.98 in accordance with Applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56. This submission is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information cited herein is "prior art" as to the invention claimed. In accordance with 37 CFR §§1.97(g)-(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that other material information as defined by 37 CFR §1.56(a) exists.

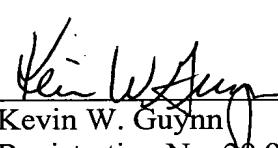
Applicants submit herewith Form PTO 1449 listing the references cited in this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner (1) initial each reference listed on the enclosed Form PTO 1449 indicating that the Examiner has considered and made those references of record in this application and (2) return a copy of the initialed Form PTO 1449 to Applicants. Copies of the references are also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

SONNENSCHEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL

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By:


Kevin W. Guynn
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Hans-Diedrich Kreft **ATTY'S DOCKET: 09793877-0002**
SERIAL NO.: 09/509,204 **GROUP ART UNIT: 2131**
FILING DATE: July 6, 2000 **EXAMINER:**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

HONORABLE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration in the above-identified application. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted.

Within 3 months (1) of filing date of a national application; (2) of date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR §1.491 in an international application; or (3) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last. (No fee is required.)

After the mailing date of a first Office Action but before (1) mailing of a final action under 37 CFR §1.113; or (2) mailing of a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.

Payment for the fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) accompanies this submission; or

The certification specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e) is made below. (No fee is required.)

After the mailing of (1) a final action under 37 CFR §1.113; or (2) a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311 whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue. The certification specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e) is made below. The Commissioner hereby is petitioned to consider the Information Disclosure Statement accompanying this submission. Payment for the Petition fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1) accompanies this submission.

The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies each item of information identified in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, or to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement.

A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover any required fee is enclosed.

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X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 19-3140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed for this purpose.



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Very respectfully,

SONNENSCHEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL

By Kevin W. Guynn, Reg. No. 29,927
Kevin W. Guynn
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Chicago, IL 60606

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

When phoning re this application,
please call (312) 876-2886

11343605

Tina M. Kuselka